U.S. Application No.: 10/764,510

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method of managing a media file database (DB), the method is performed by a media file DB managing system, the method comprising:

searching for media files;

automatically creating file directories based on metadata of the media files;

displaying a tree structure of the created file directories; and

creating link files for the media files in the file directories.

2. (currently amended): A method of managing a media file database (DB), the method is performed by a media file DB managing system, the method comprising:

searching for media files;

automatically creating file directories based on metadata of the media files;

displaying a tree structure of the created file directories; and

copying the media files to the file directories as copied media files.

3. (original): The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the searching for the media files comprises executing a media file management program.

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4. (original): The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein in the searching for the media files further comprises setting a search range for the media files and searching for the media files within the set search range.

- 5. (original): The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the searching for the media files further comprises automatically setting by the media file management program a search range wherein the media files are searched for.
- 6. (original): The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein in the creating the file directories, the file directories are created based on criteria set by a user and metadata corresponding to the criteria.
- 7. (original): The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the creating the file directories comprises editing a configuration of the file directories according to a selection of the user.
- 8. (original): The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein in the creating the file directories, a file directory is created according to criteria set by a user and subdirectories are created by automatically classifying metadata corresponding to the criteria.
- 9. (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising automatically updating the link files after repeating at regular intervals of time, the searching for the media files, the creating file directories, and the creating the link files.
- 10. (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a automatically updating the link files after repeating the searching for the media files, the creating file

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directories, and the creating the link files when a new media file has been added and/or one of the media files has been deleted.

11. (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the searching for the media files comprises searching for media files stored in a first storage medium, the creating the file directories comprises creating a file directory in a second storage medium, and the creating link files comprises creating the link files for the media files in the second storage medium.

12. (original): The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising automatically updating the copied media files after repeating at regular intervals of time, the searching for the media files, the creating file directories, and the copying the media files.

13. (original): The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising automatically updating the copied media files after repeating the searching for the media files, the creating file directories, and the copying the media files when a new media file has been added and/or one of the media files has been deleted.

14. (original): The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the searching for the media files comprises searching for media files stored in a first storage medium, the creating the file directories comprises creating a file directory in a second storage medium, and the copying the media files comprises copying the media files in the second storage medium.

15. (currently amended): A system for managing a media file database (DB), comprising: a search means for searching for media files;

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a first storage means for storing the media files and metadata of the media files;

a control means for <u>automatically</u> creating file directories based on the metadata of the media files;

a creation means for creating link files for the media files in the file directories; and a display means for displaying a tree structure of the file directories and link files contained in one of the file directories.

16. (currently amended): A system for managing a media file database (DB), comprising: a search means for searching for media files;

a first storage means for storing the media files and metadata of the media files;

a control means for <u>automatically</u> creating file directories based on the metadata of the media files;

a copy means for copying the media files in the file directories to output copied media files; and

a display means for displaying a tree structure of the file directories and link files contained in one of the file directories.

17. (original): The system as claimed in claim 15 or 16, wherein the search means searches for the media files by executing a media file management program.

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18. (original): The system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the search means designates a search range for searching for the media files and then searches for the media files based on the search range.

- 19. (original): The system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the search means searches for the media files within a search range automatically set by the media file management program.
- 20. (original): The system as claimed in claim 15 or 16, wherein the control means is operated to create the file directories based on criteria set by a user and metadata corresponding to the criteria.
- 21. (original): The system as claimed in claim 20, wherein the control means edits a configuration of the file directories according to a selection of the user.
- 22. (original): The system as claimed in claim 15 or 16, wherein the control means creates file directories according to criteria set by a user and subdirectories are created by automatically classifying metadata corresponding to the criteria.
- 23. (original): The system as claimed in claim 15 or 16, further comprising a update means for automatically updating the media file database at regular intervals of time.
- 24. (original): The system as claimed in claim 15 or 16, further comprising an update means for updating the media file database whenever a new media file is added and/or one of the media files is deleted.

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25. (original): The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the control means creates the file directories in a second storage means, and the creation means creates the linked files in the second storage means.

- 26. (original): The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the control means creates the file directories in a second storage means, and the copy means outputs copied media files in the second storage means.
- 27. (original): The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the media file DB is managed and played through WINDOWS EXPLORER.
- 28. (original): The system as claimed in claim 15 or 16, wherein the media file DB is managed and played through WINDOWS EXPLORER.
- 29. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in the creating the file directories, the file directories are created by level of the tree structure according to user selection.
- 30. (previously presented): The method as the claimed in claim 29, wherein the displaying comprises displaying file directories selected by the user selection.
- 31. (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein in the creating the file directories, the file directories are created by level of the tree structure according to user selection.

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32. (previously presented): The method as the claimed in claim 31, wherein the displaying comprises displaying file directories selected by the user selection.

- 33. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the file directories are created by level of the tree structure according to user selection.
- 34. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 33, wherein the display means displays file directories selected by the user selection.
- 35. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the file directories are created by level of the tree structure according to user selection.
- 36. (previously presented): The system as claimed in claim 35, wherein the display means displays file directories selected by the user selection.